

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 083700
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 /031 R

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APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER
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-----140724Z 064410 /20

R 140154Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BBAK, GR

SUBJECT: INQUIRY RE CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS CORPORATION
OF ATHENS

1. FORMER GOVERNOR WILLIAM SCRANTON HAS BEEN APPROACHED BY
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS CORPORATION
(KNOWN AS "CCC"), 26 SYNUGROU, ATHENS, REGARDING A
POSSIBLE BUSINESS COLLABORATION IN VARIOUS ARAB COUNTRIES.
SCRANTON'S STAFF HAS SOUGHT DEPARTMENT'S COMMENT ON
RELIABILITY AND CAPABILITY OF THIS FIRM AND ITS PRINCIPALS,
STRESSING THAT THERE IS POSSIBLE INTEREST BUT SCRANTON HAS
MADE NO RPT NO COMMITMENT.

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2. THE THREE PRINCIPALS OF THE FIRM IN QUESTION ARE
REPORTED TO BE HASIB SABBAGH, SAID KHOURY AND KAMIL ABDUL
RAHMAN. WE UNDERSTAND THE FIRM WAS ORIGINALLY HEAD-
QUARTERED IN BEIRUT BUT MOVED TO ATHENS AS A RESULT OF
RECENT TROUBLES IN BEIRUT. FIRM IS UNDERSTOOD TO INVOLVE
A GROUP OF COMPANIES ENGAGED IN GENERAL CONSTRUCTION WORK;

IT IS SAID TO HAVE HAD EXTENSIVE BUSINESS IN KUWAIT AND ALSO SUBSTANTIAL WORK IN SAUDI ARABIA AND UAE. THE COLLABORATION WHICH THIS FIRM HAS SUGGESTED WITH SCRANTON WOULD INVOLVE TELEPHONE INSTALLATION WORK, MAINLY IN SAUDI ARABIA AND PERHAPS ALSO IN KUWAIT.

3. DEPARTMENT HAS INFORMED SCRANTON THAT WE WILL BE QUERYING RELEVANT POSTS, STRESSING HIS CONCERN THAT HE NOT RPT NOT BE ASSOCIATED WITH ANY FIRM OF QUESTIONABLE INTEGRITY AND ALSO THAT NO COMMITMENT HAS BEEN MADE BY HIM TO THE FIRM MENTIONED IN THIS MESSAGE. SCRANTON IS CONTEMPLATING A TRIP TO ATHENS IN EARLY MAY WHICH MIGHT ALSO INVOLVE TRAVEL TO ONE OR MORE ARAB COUNTRIES. WE HAVE UNDERTAKEN TO PROVIDE SUCH INFORMATION AS WE CAN ON THE FIRM IN QUESTION AS PROMPTLY AS POSSIBLE.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR HELP ON THIS MATTER.
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 14-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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